The Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for increasing active IGF-I levels in a mammal having a lower level of active IGF-I relative to the level in a normal mammal, comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal has increased Insulin-like Growth Factor Binding Protein-1 (IGFBP-1) levels relative to such levels in a normal mammal.

3. (previously presented) A method for treating reduced renal function in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the reduced renal function is due to chronic or acute renal failure.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 3 further comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a renally-active molecule that promotes readsorption and retention of electrolytes selected from the group consisting of[[,]] peptides, sulfonamide compounds, phenylsulfonamidopyrimidines and phenyl-sulfonyl-aminopyrimidine derivatives, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and antibodies to endothelin.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is human.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the mammal is human.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.

17. (previously presented) A method for enhancing renal function in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the renal function to be enhanced is due to chronic or acute renal failure.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a renally-active molecule that promotes readsorption and retention of electrolytes selected from the group consisting of peptides, sulfonamide compounds, phenylsulfonamidopyrimidines and phenyl-sulfonyl-aminopyrimidine derivatives, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and antibodies to endothelin.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the mammal is human.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.

22. (previously presented) A method for treating type II diabetes in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an Insulin-like Growth Factor-I (IGF-I) variant wherein the amino acid residue at position 16, 25, or 49 or the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with an alanine, a glycine, or a serine residue.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the mammal is human.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the amino acid residues at positions 3 and 49 of native-sequence human IGF-I are replaced with alanine residues.